

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-04

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R 212004Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188392

FOLLOWING TEHRAN 6700 SENT STATE PARIS TRP TO YOU QTE

C O N F I D E N T U A L TEHRAN 670

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, IR

SUBJECT: POMPIDOU STOPOVER IN TEHRAN

REF: TEHRAN 6637

1. AS RESULT OF INQUIRY IN REFTEL, COURT MINISTER ALAM SAW ME TODAY AT SHAH'S ORDER TO PASS ON SOME INFORMATION ABOUT POMPIDOU VISIT. WHAT ALAM SAID WAS DERIVED FROM NOTES HE TOOK OF SHAH'S COMMENTS TO HIM. IT QUITE OBVIOUS FROM WHAT FOLLOWS THAT POINTS CONVEYED ARE HARDLY NEW, WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF ITEM RE POMPIDOU'S OWN PLANS. ALSO IT CLEAR THAT NOTHING WHICH TOUCHES ON IRAN-FRENCH ECONOMIC OR CULTURAL RELATIONS IS MENTIONED. THIS LAST SHOULD BE NOTED AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF A COMMENT MADE CASUALLY TO ME BY BAHADORI, ALAM'S ASSISTANT, THAT YESTER-DAY WAS BUSY BECAUSE POMPIDOU HAS SENT A LONG MESSAGE TO THE COURT WHICH REQUIRED A RESPONSE FROM THE SHAH.

2. THE MAIN SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN POMPIDOU AND CHOU EN-LAI AND BETWEEN THE FRENCH DELEGATION AND THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CHINESE HAD TO DO WITH RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION

AND THE PRC. THE CHINESE HARPED CONSTANTLY ON THEIR CONTINUING, DEEP FEAR OF THE RUSSIANS AND THEIR DETESTATION OF THEM AND THEIR POLICIES. POMPIDOU GOT THE MESSAGE.

3. THE FRENCH PRESIDENT INDICATED TO THE SHAH THAT FRANCE BACKS IRAN'S POLICIES IN THE PERSIAN GULF AND SO DO THE CHINESE. THE PRC INSISTED TO POMPIDOU THAT THE POLICY OF THE SOVIET UNION IS TO SO ALTER AFFAIRS AND ARRANGMENTS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD THAT IT WILL BE ABLE TO PUSH THROUGH BALUCHISTAN TO THE INDIAN OCEAN. THIS IS A CHINESE CONVICTION.

4. IN DISCUSSING FRENCH INTERNAL PROBLEMS, POMPIDOU TOLD THE SHAH HE WAS AFRAID THAT IF HE DID NOT RUN FOR PRESIDENT THE NEXT TIME, MITTERAND WOULD TAKE OVER THE LEADERSHIP OF FRANCE. THEREFORE POMPIDOU IS PLANNING TO RUN FOR ELECTION AGAIN. (ALAM COMMENTED THAT WHEN IN TEHRAN POMPIDOU DID NOT LOOK WELL AND DID NOT FEEL WELL, EVEN THOUGH HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION OF BEING MENTALLY ALERT.).
HELMS
UNQUOTE RUSH

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